

Mr. G. M. MATHEWS described the following new subspecies of Australian birds :—

*CALAMANTHUS HOWEI*, subsp. n.

*Adult female.* This form seems to be intermediate between *C. montanellus*, Milligan, and *C. campestris*, Gould. From the former it differs in having the ear-coverts and crown of the head reddish ; from the latter in having a longer bill, the head less rufous, and a much more pronounced brown streak on the feathers of the back.

Total length 4·8 inches ; culmen 0·5 ; wing 2 1 ; tail 2·2 ; tarsus 0·8.

*Hab.* Kow Plains, Victoria.

This subspecies is named in honour of the collector, Mr. Frank Howe, of Melbourne.

*MELITHREPTUS WHITLOCKI*, subsp. n.

*Adult.* Differs from *M. chloropsis*, Gould, in having the bare skin round the eye white both in summer and winter.

*Hab.* Wilson's Inlet, Western Australia.

This subspecies is named in honour of the collector, Mr. F. L. Whitlock.

Mr. MATHEWS further remarked : As the ' *Conspectus Psittacorum* ' of Kuhl was published in 1820 and volume xiii. of the ' *Transactions of the Linnean Society* ' did not appear till 1821, the birds named by Kuhl in the former volume must take precedence over those described by Temminck in the latter publication. The following changes will affect certain Australian birds :—

*Licmetis nasica*, Temm., will become *L. tenuirostris*, Kuhl, op. cit. p. 88.

*Platycercus flaviventris*, Temm., will become *P. browni*, Kuhl, op. cit. p. 56.

*Platycercus browni*, Temm., will become *P. venustus*, Kuhl, op. cit. p. 52.

*Neophema venusta*, Temm., will become *N. chrysostomus*, Kuhl, op. cit. p. 50.

On behalf of Mr. S. A. NEAVE, Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited examples of an extraordinary new type of Weaver-Finch and of a new species of Warbler discovered by the former.

## PALUDIPASSER, gen. n.

Similar to *Spermestes*, but with a much more diminutive and slender bill, this being at the same time more compressed and not so rounded as in *Spermestes*.

The type is

## PALUDIPASSER LOCUSTELLA, sp. n.

*Male*. Blackish above, the feathers having brown margins with white subterminal spots; throat smoky-brown; remainder of the under surface blackish, barred with white; wing-coverts and quills brownish, edged with rusty-brown, lighter on the coverts, which have a subterminal spot of the same colour; under wing-coverts light buff. Total length about 2·5 inches; culmen 0·25; wing 1·7; tail 1·0; tarsus 0·65.

*Hab.* Marshes near Lake Bangweolo, 1st June, 1908.

*Obs.* A second specimen was obtained. It is obviously a younger bird and has the underparts mostly buff, only the sides and flanks being barred with black.

## BRADYPTERUS MSIRI, sp. n.

*Adult female*. Similar to *B. nyasæ*, Shelley, but smaller and with a longer and more slender bill. It also differs in having the throat and breast whitish; the flanks, belly, and under tail-coverts dull chestnut; and the upper surface generally much darker and of a more chestnut-brown. Iris brownish; bill brownish horn-colour, paler at the base of the lower mandible; feet dull flesh-colour. Total length about 5·2 inches; culmen 0·57; wing 2·1; tail 2·7; tarsus 0·7.

*Hab.* Bunkeya River, Lufira Valley, Katanga, 13th Sept., 1907.

MR. CLIFFORD BORRER exhibited examples of the following species:—

WHEATEAR (*Saricola ænanthe*).—A pied variety with a white head and the back partly white. This bird was obtained in East Norfolk, Sept. 1909, and was the property of Mr. J. P. Musters.